THE GATES BOOK

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GENEALOGY COLLECTION

James M. Morris.

THE OLD GATES HOMESTEAD AT STOW.

SILAS GATES, OF STOW, MASS.,

AND THE

DESCENDANTS OF HIS SON,

PAUL GATES, OF ASHBY, MASS.

COMPILED BY

JULIUS KENDALL GATES

AND

SAMUEL PEARLY GATES.

"HONOR THY FATHER AND THY MOTHER."

PRINTED FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION.

1907.

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LABORE
NIHIL
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To our Grandparents,
PAUL AND ELIZABETH (HAYWARD) GATES,
WHO FOUNDED THE FAMILY IN ASHBY,
AND TO WHOM WE ARE INDEBTED
FOR MOST VALUABLE EXAMPLES
OF CHRISTIAN LIFE, FRUGALITY, INDUSTRY AND PUBLIC SPIRIT,
AND FOR THEIR SELF-DENYING EFFORTS IN THE
EDUCATION OF THEIR CHILDREN
THIS BOOK IS AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED
BY THEIR GRANDCHILDREN.

In the Genealogy of the Gates Family, entitled "Stephen Gates and His Descendants," page 29, Silas Gates (72) is said to have "died a young man," and no attempt is made to trace his descendants, only one of his children being given. In the following pages the compilers have brought together from the Middlesex County Records, the Records of Stow (where he resided), and other sources, including family papers, various particulars concerning Silas[4] Gates and his children, but more especially of his son Paul[5] (who was the first of the family to settle in Ashby, Mass.), and his descendants.

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DESCENDANTS

OF

SILAS GATES.

SILAS[4] GATES* (*Daniel*,[3] *Stephen*,[2] *Stephen*[1]) was born in Stow, Mass., July 10, 1718. He was a husbandman, and lived on the old "Gates Farm," which had belonged to his father and grandfather before him. He was often engaged in town affairs, and held various offices. In 1753 he was chosen field-driver and deer-reeve, and in 1757, surveyor of highways. He served as warden in 1767, and as constable for three years. He held the military rank of ensign, and was so called on the records as early as 1767. When over sixty years of age, he gave his aid to the cause of American Independence, and rendered acceptable military service during the Revolution.

* No. 72 (p. 29) in the Genealogy of the Gates Family (Stephen Gates and his Descendants. New York, 1898). Where no State is mentioned in the following pages, Massachusetts is to be understood.

Daniel[3] Gates, his father, who was born April 25, 1685, and died March 22, 1759, was a man of good standing in the town of Stow, where he resided. He was chosen at various times, by his fellow-townsmen, to act on local committees. In 1720 he was tything-man, and in 1721 fence-viewer. He served as selectman in 1724, '38, '47, '51, and '52. He was appointed one of a committee December 9, 1724, "to agree with and procure a man to keep school for said town [Stow] for one quarter, to teach children to read and write on s^{d} day it was voted and the School is to be kept one month at Phineas Rice's house, and the 2^{d} month at Daniel Gates, and the 3^{d} month at John Taylor's house." In 1736, the town voted to give Rev. John Gardner a gratuity, and it is gratifying to learn that the name of Daniel Gates does not appear among those who "entered their Desents against the vote of sixty pounds."

After the marriage of their son Silas,[4] Daniel[3] and Anna* Gates conveyed to him the homestead estate, and it is supposed that their last days were spent with him.

This homestead was a portion of the so-called "Gates Farm," which Stephen[2] Gates bought of an Indian in 1684. Below is given a copy of the conveyance from the aboriginal owner, which is on record in Middlesex

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* See Addenda.

Registry of Deeds, vol. ix: p. 57. The original instrument, engrossed on parchment and in good preservation, is still in existence in Stow.

To all people to whom this prſent Deed of Sale shall come Benjamin Bowhoe an Indian of Pompacittaquutt in New England Sendeth Greeting know yee that I the s^{d} Benjamin Bowhoe for & in consideration of the Sum of fourty shillin in currant money of New England to me in hand at & before the Ensealing & delivery of theſe prſents by Stephen Gates of Stow of Pompacittaquutt in the county of Middlesex within the colony of the Mattachuſetts in New England yeoman, as Aſſignee of Edward Drinker of Boston in New England afores^{d} Potter, well & truly payd, the Receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge & my Selfe there with fully satisfyed & contented and thereof and of every part thereof do hereby acquitt exonerate & diſcharge the s^{d} Stephen Gates, his heyrs executors & Adminiſtrators for ever by theſe prſents have given, granted, bargained, ſold, aliened, enfeoffed releaſed & confirmed, and by theſe prſents do freely, clearly and abſolutely give, grant, bargaine, ſell, alien, enfeoffe, releaſe & confirme unto him the s^{d} Stephen Gates his heyrs & Aſſigns for ever Three hundred Acrs of land, bee the ſame more or leſs scittuate lying & being within the s^{d} Township of Stow on both Sides of a certain Brook there comonly called & known by the name of Elsabeth als Alsabat Brook according as the s^{d} land is mentioned to be bounded in a certain Deed of Sale thereof under the hand & seal of the s^{d} Edward Drinker given & delivered unto the s^{d} Stephen Gates & which s^{d} land is now in the Tenure & occupation of the s^{d} Stephen Gates Together with all & ſingular the proffitts, privileges, rights, libertyes, benefitts, Advantages comodityes, heredittam^{ts} & Appurtenances Whatsoever to the s^{d} Three hundred Acrs of land or to any part thereof belonging or in anywiſe appertaining or therewith now uſed occupied or injoyed To Have

and to Hold the s^{d} Three hundred acres of land with all other the above granted prmiſes unto the s^{d} Stephen Gates his heyrs & Aſſigns forever & to the only propper uſe benefitt & behoofe of him ye s^{d} Stephen Gates his heyrs & Aſſigns for ever. And I the s^{d} Benjamin Bowhoe for me my heyrs executor^{s} & Adminiſtrators do hereby covenant, promiſe & grant to & with the s^{d} Stephen Gates his heyrs & Aſſigns in manner & forme following (that is to Say) that at the time of this prſent bargaine and Sale & untill the Ensealing & delivery of theſe prſents I was the true, sole & lawfull owner of all the afore bargained prmiſes & am lawfully seized off & in the ſame & every part thereof in my own propper right and have in my self full powr, good right & lawfull Authority to grant sell, convey, & aſſure the ſame unto ye s^{d} Stephen Gates his heyrs & Aſſigns as a good perfect & abſolute Eſtate of Inheritance in ffee ſimple without any manner of condition, Reverſion or limitation whatſoev^{r} so as to alter, change, defeat or make voyd the ſame & that the s^{d} Stephen Gates his heyrs & Aſſigns shall & may by force & vertue of theſe prſents from time to time & at all times for ever hereafter lawfully peaceably & quietly have, hold, uſe, occupy, poſſess & injoy the above granted prmiſes with the appurtenances y^{r}e unto belonging free & clear & clearly acquitted & diſcharged of & from all & all manner of former & other gifts, grants, bargains, sales, leaſes, morgages, Joyntures, Dowers, Judgemts Executions, Entalles forfeitures & of & from all other Titles, Troubles, charges & Incumbrances whatſoever, had, made, com̄itted done or ſuffred to be done by me the s^{d} Benjamin Bowhoe or my heyrs & Aſſigns or at any time or times before th' Ensealing hereof.

And further that I the s^{d} Benjamin Bowhoe my heyrs Executors & Adminiſtrators shall & will from time to time & att all times forever hereafter warrant & defend the above granted prmiſes with the appurtenances & every part thereof unto the s^{d} Stephen Gates his heyrs & Assigns against all and every prſon and prſons whatſoever any ways lawfully claiming or demanding the ſame or any part thereof In wit-

ness whereof I the s^d^ Benjamen Bowhoe have hereunto Sett my hand & seale, the third Day of June Anno Domini one thoufand six hundred eighty & four Annoq R R^s^ Caroli Secundi &c^a^ xxxvj

The marke of
B B
BENJAMEN BOWHOE

Signed Seald & delivd
after ye w^th^in written
Deed was read unto y^e^
within named Benjamin
Bowhoe In declaring
he underftood the fame in Englifh in prfence of us
John Warner Edward Thomas: John Hayward *Not. publ.*
Eleazar Moody *Scrv^r^*

Benjamin Bowhoe perfonally appearing this third day of June 1684 acknowledged this Inftrument to be his Act & Deed before Elisha Cooke *Affift.*

Recorded, 26. 4. 1684

by THO: DANFORTH R

Stephen[2] Gates died possessed of this farm, lying on and around Spindle Hill, which he left to his six sons to be equally divided among them. The division deed was dated March 26, 1710/11, and was recorded July 1, 1718.* Two sons, Stephen[3] and Thomas,[3] sold their shares and removed to Connecticut. The other four, Simon,[3] Isaac,[3] Nathaniel[3] and Daniel,[3] settled in Stow. Daniel's share was next adjoining that of his brother Nathaniel, and included the dwelling-house, barn and

* Middlesex Registry, vol. xx: p. 123.

orchard. In the conveyance of the farm to his son Silas,[4] mentioned above, dated March 25, 1741, and entered for record May 20, 1757, he described it as follows: —

"One mefuage and parcel of Land lying and being in Stow above s^d^ and Consisting of plow land meadow land pafturage & Woodland with a house & barn on the fame Containing by Estimation Seventy and three acres be the fame more or lefs fifty acres of the fame as it is Computed is farm land being a part of Gates Farm so Called the other twenty & three Acres as computed is Division land all of it laid out to me as my proportion of the farm right Save five acres and Sixty rods which I purchased of Hezekiah Hapgood all of said Land lyeth in one Intire Peice save only the partition of a highway and adjoining to the laft mentioned fifty acres & all together make one Intire Meffuage."*

After the death of Silas[4] Gates, his real estate passed to his two elder sons, Jonathan[5] and Oliver[5]. Jonathan removed from town, and Oliver succeeded to the homestead, which he afterwards conveyed to his son Oliver,[6] in two deeds, one of which was dated July 1, 1816, and the other December 30, 1822; but they were not recorded until June 18, 1839, shortly after his death. He reserved to himself the back part of the house, with liberty, however, "to use the oven which is in the front part of the house," and "to pass through the front part of the house to the well for water"; and he gave the

* Middlesex Registry of Deeds, vol. lv: p. 85.

right to his son Oliver,[6] "to pass through the back part of the house, up chamber and down cellar."

When Oliver[6] made his will in 1846, he bequeathed the estate to his grandsons Stephen[8] and Ephraim,[8] Jr., provided they would "carry on the farm in a good husbandry like manner, and carry in one half of the produce to their Mother Lydia Gates during her life." His will mentions one son Ephraim,[7] his wife Lydia, and their five children: Stephen,[8] Ephraim,[8] Olivia,[8] Lydia[8] and Mary[8]. He died March 3, 1850. The inventory, which was taken April 18, 1850, described the real estate as follows: —

The homestead of said deceased, situated in Stow, containing by estimation ninety acres, with the buildings, appraised at $3,000.

About four acres of woodland situated in Cedar swamp, appraised at $175.

About ten acres of land situated on Marble Hill, so called, appraised at $153.

Ephraim,[7] the son of Oliver and Olive Gates, was born April 25, 1802, and died January 29, 1872; he was the one who bought Widow Mary Gates's third* in her husband's estate, which his father had been accustomed to rent,† and also assumed some risk in securing a good title, for it is family tradition that one heir never ap-

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* See Addenda.

† "By cash paid by Oliver Gates of Stow, for use of Widow Mary Gates's third." This account is dated May 21, 1828.

peared to sign the deed, and that a little piece of the farm is to this day, called "No-man's land."

Stephen,[8] son of Ephraim[7] and Lydia (Walcott) Gates, was the last of the race to own this ancestral estate, for in 1863 he purchased all the right, title and interest, of his brother Ephraim, Jr., for $700. He married June 16, 1869, Ellen Fitzgerald, and died May 18, 1883, leaving three children, the eldest of whom, Daniel Stephen[9] Gates, was born in Stow, May 12, 1870, "on the old homestead," and takes a justifiable pride in the fact that he is of the eighth generation who has lived there. He is now a resident of Medford.

In January, 1886, the homestead was sold to Daniel A. Fitzgerald of Brookline, Mass. Thus passed out of the family the "Gates Farm," which had been in its possession for two hundred years. It is situated about a mile southwest of the centre of the town, at the foot of Spindle Hill, which, save for the disappearance of the forests that once crowned its summit, remains unchanged since the day when the first settler took up his abode there. The house is in a pleasant location, surrounded by abundant foliage, and in sight of Elsbeth brook. It is now unoccupied, and in need of repair to insure its preservation. In years gone by, Mr. Henry Gates, one of Stow's well known and most respected citizens, has seen four generations in this house at one time: Oliver,[5] (1753–1839); Oliver,[6] (1776–1850); Ephraim,[7] (1802–1872); Stephen,[8] (1831–1883).

Silas[4] Gates married (1), Mary Whitcomb, daughter of Jonathan and Rachel (Woods) Whitcomb, of Bolton, who was baptized October 4, 1724.

Children, born in Stow:

I. ELIZABETH,[5] born July 16, 1744; married in 1767, Joshua Brown, son of Joseph and Grace (Fairbanks) Brown, who was born in Stow, June 24, 1742, and died there June 27, 1817; she died in Stow, Nov. 23, 1826. He was an officer in the Revolution, and was present at the battle of Bunker Hill.

II. ANNA, born Mar. 27, 1746; married (intention June 19, 1766), Jonathan Wood, son of Jeremiah and Elizabeth (Farr*) Wood, who was born at Payquage (now Athol), Aug. 23, 1744, and died in New Braintree, Sept. 19, 1807; she died there Sept. 8, 1805. He was a husbandman, and resided in Stow, Athol and Gardner before his removal to New Braintree, where he was a useful citizen, and "third deacon" in the church. From this town he enlisted in the Revolutionary War.

III. DANIEL, born Oct. 28, 1747; died Jan. 20, 1778. He marched on the Lexington Alarm, and afterwards had eight months' service as corporal in Capt. Samuel Patch's company, Col. William Prescott's regiment. Feb. 24, 1777, he enlisted in the Continental Army as a private and joined Capt. Joshua Brown's company, Col. Timothy Bigelow's regiment, and was in service at the time of his death. His will may be found in the Addenda.

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* Not positively proved, but a conclusion derived from research.

IV. JONATHAN, born July 25, 1749; married Nov. 28, 1785, Hannah Salter, daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Knight) Salter, who was born in Stow, Aug. 5, 1759. He was a soldier of the Revolution and a United States pensioner. He enlisted Feb. 24, 1777, and joined the same company and regiment to which his brother belonged. His name appears on a receipt dated Boston, April 11, 1782, for bounty paid him by Col. Jonathan Hapgood, for three years' service in the Continental Army.

After the war he married, and resided in Stow, where he engaged in farming. In 1793, he was called "of Gardner," when he sold his interest in a parcel of land belonging to his grandfather, Jonathan Whitcomb. He later removed to Westminster where he died. The administration of his estate was granted to his "second son," Samuel Gates, at the request of his widow Hannah, who petitioned for the appointment Mar. 2, 1827, stating that the eldest son was away from home, "I know not where." The bondsmen were Samuel Gates and Harvey Coolidge, Jr., of Gardner.

V. SILAS, born Feb. 19, 1750/51; probably died young.

VI. OLIVER, born April 20, 1753; married in Harvard, Oct. 25, 1775, Patience Merriam, daughter* of Nathaniel and Esther (Muzzey) Merriam, who was baptized in Lexington, April 6, 1746; he died May 26, 1839.

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* No direct proof of this has been found, but it is variously indicated, and the compiler of the Merriam Genealogy in reply to an inquiry regarding the parentage of Patience, writes, "Nathaniel Merriam, born in Lexington, Dec. 6, 1705, with the wife and children you name, corresponds with the man who died at Harvard, 'Sept. 27, 1783, Æt. 77,' and Patience his daughter, is a hopeful candidate for your Gates honors."

According to an agreement of the heirs,* Oliver and his brother Jonathan received the real estate upon the death of their father. Oliver settled upon the homestead, as has been stated, where he always resided. In 1784, and again in 1793, he and his brother and sisters sold their right in certain land of their grandfather, Jonathan Whitcomb, "late of Bolton deceased," which was located in Templeton and Harvard. He was then called "Oliver Gates, Jr., of Stow, husbandman."

The death of his wife is not on record, but it is evident that she died early in life, while he lived to more than fourscore years and five, and was cared for by his son Oliver. He disposed of his property by deed and left no will.

Silas Gates married (2), (intention July 25, 1756), Mary, widow of Thomas Wheeler and daughter of John and Hannah (Buttrick) Daby, who was born in Stow, October 24, 1722.

Child:

VII. MARY, born June 28, 1757; married (intention April 24, 1773), Daniel Hooker, son of Jacob and Mary (Farr) Hooker, who was born in Littleton, June 25, 1750. He was a cordwainer by trade and lived in Stow, prior to 1790. In that year he sold his farm, which was situated in the northerly part of the town, to Ephraim Russell for £58: 15*s.*: 8*d.* The family afterwards

* See Addenda.

settled in Brandon, Vt. He is doubtless identical with the Daniel Hooker who was in Capt. Amasa Cranston's company in 1776.

Silas Gates married (3), in 1760, Anna, widow of Samuel Hammond and daughter of Jonathan and Anna (Livermore) Bemis, who was born in Watertown, July 4, 1730.

Children:

VIII. EUNICE, born June 26, 1761; married Jan. 27, 1780, Amos Wheeler, son of Hezekiah and Sarah (Buss) Wheeler, who was born in Acton, July 12, 1754. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and marched from Stow in 1777, to join the army under Gen. Gates. They removed to Charlestown, N. H., where he was taxed in 1792. The town has reason to remember Mr. Wheeler and other public-spirited citizens, for the magnificent shade trees which adorn its streets and have added thousands of dollars to its real estate. In 1800 he secured the most thrifty trees to be found, and planted them on Main Street. To-day they are the "Great Elms" which have brought comfort and shade to more than three generations, who have walked or sat beneath their branches.

IX. CATHERINE, born Mar. 5, 1763; married Mar. 6, 1783, Aaron Willard, son of Benjamin and Sarah (Brooks) Willard, who was born in Grafton, Oct. 13, 1757, and died in Boston, May 20, 1844. She died in Roxbury, July 30, 1785. He and his son Aaron were famous

clock makers. His name appears on the Lexington Alarm Roll and he afterwards had further service in the Revolution.

Silas Gates married (4), May 8, 1769, Mary, widow of Jonas Brown and daughter of Peter and Lydia Graves, who was born in Stow, August 10, 1735, and died in Ashby, June 19, 1831.

Children:

Births recorded on Stow Records.

1 x. SILAS, born Mar. 27, 1770.

2 xi. PAUL, born Dec. 16, 1772.*

xii. REUBEN, died in infancy.

xiii. THOMAS, died in infancy.

The following inscriptions are found in the old graveyard at Stow: —

Here lies ye body of Ensign Silas Gates (was born July ye 10, 1718) & Departed this Life June ye 16 AD 1779 Aged 60 years 11 months & 6 days.

Here Lies Buried The Body of Mrs Anna Gates wife of Mr Daniel Gates Who Died August ye 9 1759 In ye 75 year of her Age.

Here Lies Buried The Body of Mr Daniel Gates Who Died March ye 22 A.D. 1759 In ye 75 year of His Age.

* The family Bible gives his birth a year earlier, but that entry was made at a much later period.

SILAS GATES OF WENDELL.

1

ILAS GATES, son of Silas and Mary (Graves-Brown) Gates, married in 1791, Elizabeth Johnson,* daughter of William and Sarah (Kendall) Johnson, born September 19, 1772 (record in Family Bible). The State record says she was born in Woburn, and died in Leverett, January 6, 1866, aged 93 years and 4 months; he died March 7, 1809.

William Johnson was of the Woburn stock, a son of Ebenezer Johnson who was in the Crown Point expedition, and a descendant of Capt. Edward Johnson, the author of the celebrated history, called the "Wonder-Working Providence of Sion's Saviour in New England." He was born February 25, 1733, and married July 9, 1760, Sarah Kendall, daughter of Nathaniel and Sarah (Carter) Kendall of Woburn. They removed to Acton

* Called Betty on p. 23 of "Captain Edward Johnson of Woburn, Mass., and Some of his Descendants."

about 1770, and afterwards resided in Westford, Littleton and Ashby. They had eight children who were named among the heirs of their grandfather, Nathaniel Kendall, in 1776; the three younger of these—Lucretia, Betty and Lydia,—chose their brother, Nathaniel Johnson of Littleton, as their guardian, and he receipted for their legacies in 1790. It will be noticed that one of the children mentioned below was named Nathaniel Kendall, in remembrance of his great-grandfather.

Silas Gates was educated in his native town and grew to manhood under the care and guidance of his mother, having lost his father at an early age. Upon his marriage he removed to Wendell, one of the hill towns of Franklin County, Massachusetts, which was incorporated May 8, 1781, and named in honor of Judge Oliver Wendell of Boston, who gave a bell for the meeting-house. Here, in 1791, he purchased land, as the records state, "thirty-one acres be the same more or less" in one piece, and "about ten acres more or less" in the other, and upon this farm he made a home for his family. He resided in Wendell until his death. In 1808, he and his brother Paul Gates gave a bond for the support of their mother.

Children, born in Wendell:

1. SILAS, born Feb. 17, 1792; married (intention June 10, 1822), Clarissa Kelley; he was a tanner, and resided in Wendell; died April 28, 1823, leaving an infant child, *Silas Josiah*, for whom his widow was ap-

pointed guardian; she with her son afterwards removed to the State of New York.

3 II. ELIZA, born Jan. 24, 1794.

4 III. PAUL, born Feb. 23, 1796.

IV. DANIEL, born April 15, 1798; he married Diadama Calkins, and died in Whitehall, N. Y., January, 1898, having nearly reached his one hundredth birthday. The Records of Franklin County, Mass., state that he discharged mortgages in 1836 and 1839, and was then described as of Wendell.

V. MARY, born May 4, 1800; died May 28, 1809.

VI. WILLIAM, born Mar. 20, 1803; died June 7, 1804.

VII. NATHANIEL KENDALL, born May 4, 1805; died July 16, 1806.

VIII. WINDSOR GRAVES, born Jan. 5, 1809; died May 31, 1809.

3

ELIZA GATES, daughter of Silas and Elizabeth (Johnson) Gates, married May 8, 1822, Norman Osgood, son of Joseph and Sarah (Graves) Osgood, who was born in Wendell, June 29, 1794, and died in Leverett, February 13, 1866; she died there March 30, 1887.

Children:

I. MARIETTE OSGOOD, born Feb. 5, 1823; married September, 1839, Chester Merchant of Wendell, who died Nov. 25, 1853; she died in Athol, Feb. 16, 1893.

5 II. SARAH ANN OSGOOD, born June 5, 1824.

6 III. JOSEPH OSGOOD, born Dec. 9, 1827.

IV. HOWARD GATES OSGOOD, born Sept. 16, 1833; married Feb. 24, 1859, Hattie Lyons of New Albany, Ind. He graduated from the Eclectic Medical Institute in 1856, and has been a resident of Gosport, Ind., for fifty years.

4

PAUL GATES, son of Silas and Elizabeth (Johnson) Gates, married Eliza Stone, daughter of Clark and Chloe (Kelley) Stone, who was born in Wendell, February 18, 1798, and died there March 8, 1859; he died December 9, 1848. He was a farmer and always resided in his native town.

Children, born in Wendell:

I. ELIZA MARIA, born Nov. 13, 1819; married John Kidder; died in Athol, Sept. 23, 1850.

II. HARRIET, born April 14, 1822; died Oct. 26, 1839.

7 III. EDWIN, born May 15, 1824.

8 IV. CHLOE ANN, born April 14, 1826.

V. DWIGHT, born April 25, 1829; married Aug. 18, 1852, Mary Elizabeth Stowell of Shutesbury, who was born April 27, 1836, and died May 10, 1855; married (2), Sept. 9, 1856, Fannie Matilda Fisher of Warwick; died in Wendell, Oct. 1, 1875.

VI. HENRY, born Feb. 16, 1832; died Aug. 14, 1832.

5

Sarah Ann Osgood, daughter of Norman and Eliza (Gates) Osgood, married March 24, 1852, Marcus Lyons Morton, son of Chauncey and Betsey (Pike) Morton, who was born in Leverett, April 18, 1825, and died there August 29, 1902 ; she died there February 13, 1905. He was a farmer.

Children, born in Leverett:

I. Mary Eva Morton, born May 30, 1855 ; married April 3, 1877, Gilbert Pierson Smith. They reside in Jersey Shore, Pa.

II. Rector Osgood Morton, born July 25, 1857 ; married Nov. 12, 1884, Mary Louise Kellogg, born in Hadley, June 19, 1862. He is a farmer and resides in Leverett. At the present time he is a selectman of the town.

6

Joseph Osgood, son of Norman and Eliza (Gates) Osgood, married October 29, 1856, Alicia Ann Foster Baker, daughter of John J. and Betsey Buttrick (Reed) Baker, who was born in Shutesbury, August 26, 1828. He was a native of Wendell where his early life was spent. After his marriage he purchased a farm in Shutesbury, where he and his wife have resided for forty-three years. They are members of the church there and have lived exemplary lives in the community.

Their farm has now been sold and they are with their daughter in Shelburne Falls.

Children :

I. JOSEPH HOWARD OSGOOD, born in Wendell, Sept. 3, 1857; married April 18, 1894, Mrs. Mary Adaline (Chapin-King) Alden of Pelham. He is a farmer, residing in Shutesbury.

II. WILLIE WASHINGTON OSGOOD, born in Wendell, Feb. 15, 1859; married Oct. 3, 1883, Jennie Gilbert Firman of Pelham. They are active workers in the Methodist Episcopal Church at Greenfield, of which he is assistant sexton.

III. DWIGHT EDGAR OSGOOD, born in Shutesbury, Mar. 12, 1865; married Nov. 21, 1888, Mary Smith Chapin of Amherst; graduated from Eastman's Business College, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., in 1886, and is now an interior decorator in New York City.

IV. MARIETTA OSGOOD, born in Shutesbury, Dec. 2, 1868; married in Amherst, April 18, 1894, William James Vanstone, born in Westfield. They reside in Shelburne Falls, where he is agent for the Standard Oil Company.

7

EDWIN GATES, son of Paul and Eliza (Stone) Gates, married October 8, 1847, Mary Brigham Porter, daughter of Asa and Polly (Gage) Porter of Orange, who died January 24, 1888; he died April 17, 1903.

Children, born in Wendell:

I. SUMNER LUCIEN, born June 18, 1848; married Oct. 8, 1870, Mary Holton; died in Northfield, Mar. 19, 1902.

II. SIDNEY EDGAR, born Jan. 25, 1851; married Mar. 8, 1871, Esther Emery; resides in Quincy.

III. EMMA JEANNETTE, born May 18, 1854; married Nov. 27, 1872, Edwin Collins Hatstat; resides in Leominster. They have one son, *Manley Gates Hatstat*, who was born April 10, 1884, and married Nov. 6, 1901, Emma Louise Powers of Leominster.

8

CHLOE ANN GATES, daughter of Paul and Eliza (Stone) Gates, married November 23, 1846, Washington Howe Amsden, son of Jacob and Lyndia (Hoskins) Amsden, who was born in Dana, April 19, 1825, and died in Athol, November 3, 1886. She died there April 12, 1905.

Children:

I. OTHO FRANCIS AMSDEN, born in Orange, Nov. 23, 1852; married Oct. 27, 1875, Lizzie Martha Moulton, who died in Athol, May 30, 1886; married (2), April 7, 1887, Alice Marion Rogan of Athol.

II. FRED HENRY AMSDEN, born in Athol, June 8, 1857; married June 11, 1885, Madeline Bowen of Shelburne Falls, where he resides.

III. WILLIAM HOWE AMSDEN, born in Athol, Oct. 22, 1859; died there Oct. 1, 1891.

IV. FESTUS GATES AMSDEN, born in Athol, June 28, 1864; married in Syracuse, N. Y., Sept. 1, 1891, Elizabeth Sarah Bridgeford, daughter of Wilkins and Sarah Angeline (Gilbert) Bridgeford; resides in his native town. He has filled the positions of director in the Athol National Bank; of town auditor; and of secretary, treasurer, and trustee of the Worcester Northwest Agricultural Society. He was appointed assistant postmaster, June 1, 1900, and received his commission as postmaster, Nov. 17, 1903.

V. ANNA MARIA AMSDEN, born in Athol, Dec. 19, 1871; married Sept. 11, 1895, Sumner Leander Morse of Athol.

PAUL GATES OF ASHBY.

2

THE founder of the family in Ashby was PAUL GATES, second son of Silas and Mary (Graves-Brown) Gates, who married in Boxborough, Mass., February 13, 1800, Elizabeth Hayward, daughter of Paul and Anna (White) Hayward. He died in Ashby, August 28, 1819, and she married as her second husband, February 9, 1831, Samuel Whitcomb, son of Ephraim and Hannah (Hoar) Whitcomb of Littleton, who was born April 30, 1777, and died June 30, 1861; she was born in Boxborough, October 7, 1776, and died in Ashby, May 8, 1855.

Paul Gates

Mr. Gates and his wife, immediately after their marriage, removed to their new home in the southern part of Ashby, where the year before he had purchased a farm containing ninety-one acres, with a fertile soil "suitably divided into pasture, mowing and woodland." This is the old family homestead around which have

THE FAMILY HOMESTEAD OF PAUL (2) GATES, IN ASHBY, MASS., PURCHASED IN 1799.

Now the Residence of Mrs. Edward White.

been gathering, for more than a century, many happy memories, and here he died. The house is now occupied by his grand-daughter, Mrs. Edward White. It is situated on an elevation commanding an extensive view, north and east, of perhaps fifty miles.

A copy of the deed conveying this farm to Paul Gates is here given.

Know all men by these presents that I Joseph Pingry of Ashby in the County of Middlesex & Commonwealth of Massachusetts, tailor, in consideration of one thousand dollars paid me by Paul Gates of Boxborough in the County aforesaid, Cooper, the receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge, do hereby give, grant, sell and convey to the said Paul Gates, his heirs & assigns, a certain tenement or farm lying & being in Southerly part of Ashby aforesaid, containing fifty eight acres & three quarters of an acre of land with a Mansion House* on the same, be the same more or less, bounded as follows (viz) beginning at a stake & stones by the road which leads from Israel Weatherbey's to Fitchburg, thence runs east thirty one degrees & half north one hundred rods to a stake & stones, thence running south thirty one & half degrees east ninety four rods to a stake & stones, thence running west thirty one & half degrees south one hundred rods to a stake and stones, thence running north thirty one & a half degrees west ninety four rods by the said road to the bounds first mentioned: also one other piece of land lying west of the above said road & opposite of the above said farm, together with a dwelling house & barn on the

* When I was a boy there was an old cellar hole just west of the present barn, where this Mansion House stood. It was afterwards moved a little to the south-east, and my father used it for a sheep barn. It was a one-story building, with hewn timbers, large in proportion to its size, and was torn down when the present barn was built. The dwelling house alluded to in this deed was a part of the house in which my sister, Mrs. White, now lives. In 1810 it was made upright, and an addition put on, by my grandfather Paul Gates. J. K. G.

same containing thirty three acres & twelve rods, be the same more or less, and bounded as follows Viz: beginning at a stake and stones by the above said road & being the north east corner of Capt Read's & Davis' land so called, thence runs by said land about one hundred & sixty rods to a stake & stones, joining on land formerly owned by one Greeno & since owned by said Paul Gates & Ephraim Whitcomb, thence turns and runs easterly by said Gates & Whitcomb land about one hundred and sixty rods to the road above mentioned, thence turns & runs by said road to the bounds first mentioned. To have & to hold the above described premises to the said Paul Gates, his heirs and assigns, to his proper use benefit and behoof forever. And I do covenant with the said Paul Gates & his heirs & assigns that I am lawfully seized in fee of the Premises, that they are free of incumbrances, that I have good right to sell and convey the same to the said Paul Gates, and that I will warrant and defend the same to the said Paul Gates & his heirs and assigns for ever against the lawful claims & demands of all persons.—In witness whereof I, the said Joseph Pingry, together with Sarah my now wedded wife, in token of her relinquishing her right of dower or power of thirds or any other wise claiming, have hereunto set our hands & seals this third day of May in the year of our Lord seventeen hundred and ninety nine.

Signed, sealed & delivered
in presence of
STEPHEN GIBSON
ALLEN FLAGG

JOSEPH PINGRY
SARAH PINGRY

May 3, 1799.

Middlesex ſs. Personally appeared the above named Joseph Pingry and acknowledged the above Instrument by him subscribed to be his free act and deed before me

ALLEN FLAGG Just. Peace

1222063

Elizabeth Gates

Middlesex fs. Cambridge, August 31, 1799. Received & entered in the Registry of Deeds, Book 133d, Page 192d &c

Attst Saml Bartlett Regr.

Mr. Gates was a man of excellent judgment in selecting and buying land and live-stock, and in planning to render his farm both remunerative and productive. He was resourceful in all emergencies, and possessed marked business ability. He was a man of strong sympathies, and highly respected by his family, and the people of the neighborhood in which he lived.

Although comparatively young when he died, he had accumulated a handsome property. His wife was a true helpmate, having wisdom and ability to manage and direct his household. She was industrious and economical, and withal, hospitable and ever ready to welcome and entertain the visitors who came to her home from a large circle of relatives, for she was one of the favorites in a family of ten children. She was tasty in dress, a lady of nice perceptions, quiet and refined in manner; she had great decision of character, and was ever prepared to take a firm and decided stand for what she thought was the truth and the right, in morals and religious belief, against all opposition.

In their married life Mr. and Mrs. Gates were happy and devoted to each other. They possessed a strong religious faith, which enabled them to trust in their Heavenly Father, even when called to undergo the severest trials.

In the winter season, it was their custom to go four miles, often through storms and drifts, — in the early days riding on horseback, — to the First Parish Church, to sit there without a fire through two long services. Their children were well trained; all of them inherited the strong religious faith which characterized their parents, and especially did their daughter Elizabeth, who died of consumption in her eighteenth year, manifest this trust and resignation, through a lingering illness.

After the death of her husband she retained the farm, which she cultivated with the assistance of her sons, and by her self-denial and thoughtful care, enabled her children to enjoy every advantage within their reach in those days when the rural district school offered but a limited opportunity to acquire an education.

Children, born in Ashby:

9 I. HOWARD, born Feb. 20, 1801.

II. ELIZABETH, born Dec. 8, 1802; died Feb. 19, 1820.

III. PAUL, born Jan. 6, 1805; died Mar. 2, 1805.

10 IV. PEARLY, born Jan. 19, 1806.

11 V. MARY, born Mar. 13, 1809.

12 VI. ANNA WHITE, born Oct. 16, 1811.

VII. SUSAN HARTWELL, born June 28, 1814; died Nov. 3, 1828. She had a diseased knee, and in the hope that her life might be prolonged, even for a short time, she underwent amputation. Those were the days when the use of ether or chloroform in surgical operations was unknown, and the sufferings of this

Cyrus P. Gates

young girl were intense. Dr. Twitchell of Keene, N. H., performed the operation, and his bill (still preserved in the family) was thirty dollars.

13 VIII. PAUL, born April 8, 1817.

IX. CYRUS PIERCE, born Nov. 21, 1819; died Sept. 20, 1884. He received his education in the schools of Ashby and Littleton. Of a thoughtful and literary turn of mind, he enjoyed books and became a successful school teacher. He never married, but lived alternately with his three brothers, after the death of his parents. Like all his family he was greatly interested in the old First Parish Church of Ashby, and was a constant attendant at the Sunday School. He was like an elder brother to his nephews and nieces, and by his quiet dignity, his interest in their education, and his influence upon their moral and religious life, won their honor and affection. He was considered one of the neatest and best farmers in Ashby. He was a man of public spirit and much respected by the people of his native town.

9

HOWARD GATES, eldest son of Paul and Elizabeth (Hayward) Gates, married March 10, 1824, Clarissa Kendall, daughter of Oliver and Lucy (Wellington) Kendall of Ashby, who was born August 27, 1801, and died November 17, 1889; he died September 25, 1877. He was by occupation a farmer, and lived on the home-

stead farm which his father purchased in 1799. He was selectman and assessor in 1842, and representative to the General Court in 1850 and 1851. He possessed excellent judgment and held strong convictions as to his duty, and was, withal, a gentleman of the old school, dignified and courteous in manner. His hospitality was unbounded, and his benevolence extended to all who asked or needed assistance. He was a Unitarian in his religious belief, and held the office of deacon in the First Parish Church from 1837 until his death.

Mrs. Gates was in every way helpful to her husband, a woman of remarkable patience and endurance, a devoted mother, and a kind and thoughtful neighbor, universally beloved and respected. Her hands were never idle, and she "looked well to the ways of her houshold." She died in her eighty-ninth year, with her mental faculties unimpaired.

Children, born in Ashby :

14 I. ELIZABETH HOWARD, born Dec. 19, 1824.

II. SUSAN HARTWELL, born Sept. 15, 1830; died July 19, 1837.

15 III. JULIUS KENDALL, born Oct. 9, 1833.

16 IV. CLARISSA* REBECCA, born Oct. 17, 1835.

17 V SUSAN HARTWELL, born July 10, 1837.

18 VI. MARY CAROLINE, born Oct. 1, 1841.

19 VII. EDWARD HOWARD, born Jan. 25, 1845.

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* Town record: she was commonly called Clara.

Howard Gates

Clarissa Gates

THE PEARLY GATES HOMESTEAD, ASHBY, MASS.

10

PEARLY GATES, son of Paul and Elizabeth (Hayward) Gates, married October 1, 1834, Mary Burr, daughter of Robert Waterman and Susannah (Butler) Burr, who was born in Ashby, November 10, 1810, and died November 19, 1888; he died May 13, 1888.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Gates made their home at the old farm-house where he was born and brought up. He cultivated the adjoining farm, which his father had owned, the house on which was known as the "Halfway-house," situated on the main road from Ashby to Fitchburg. About two years later they removed to a house in the eastern part of Ashby, located at a convenient distance for him to continue his work upon his land, and here their son Samuel was born. Their other children were born upon a small farm south of Ashby village, where the family lived until 1850; this farm was then exchanged for one of ninety acres, situated about one mile north of the village. This was the "much loved home" where Mr. and Mrs. Gates resided until 1888, when they both passed on to the Eternal Home.

The house upon this farm was built by Ralph Hill, who, before 1767 (the year in which Ashby was incorporated), had a sawmill at the foot of the hill where the dam and pond now are. Originally the house was a low, one-story structure, but another story had been added previous to its sale to Mr. Gates. After his purchase, he still further improved the estate: in 1870 he built a

commodious carriage house, and enlarged the barn, moving it to face the south instead of the east; he also added a piazza of about a hundred feet in length on the south and east sides of the house. His children preferred that the picture of their home given in this volume should show it as it was in their childhood days, without the piazza.

Mr. Gates was a successful farmer and took a special pride in his horses and cattle; he was an excellent judge of animals, as were also his brothers and the Hayward family in general. In his business relations he was a far-seeing and honest man, and in his family he was kind, affectionate and patient. He had a calm and pleasant disposition, and was fond of religious poetry and the beauties of nature. Religion and righteousness, in his mind stood far above riches and fame.

Mrs. Gates was a woman of strong personality, who attracted those around her, and exerted a marked influence socially, morally, and religiously. She was an excellent soprano singer, and entered the choir of the Ashby First Parish Church at the early age of ten, continuing a member for forty-two years. She taught in the Sunday School about fifty years. She possessed great moral courage, and her faith in God and the future life never wavered.

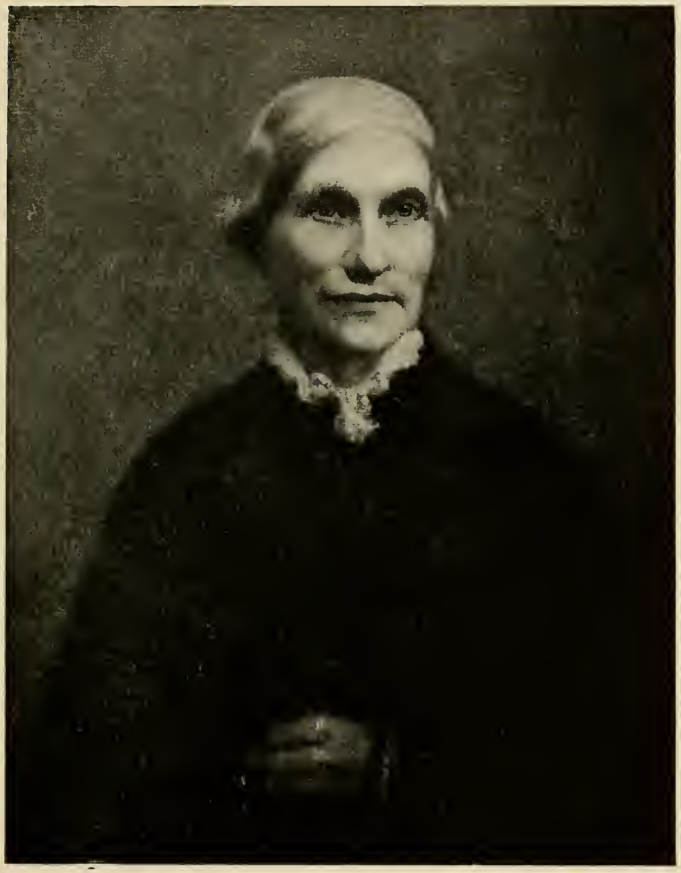
Children, born in Ashby:

20 I. SAMUEL PEARLY, born June 8, 1837.

21 II. GEORGE LEWIS, born Nov. 11, 1839.

22 III. MARY ELIZABETH, born July 5, 1846.

Pearly Gates.



Mary B. Gates.

Mary G Kendall

Oliver H. Kendall

11

MARY GATES, daughter of Paul and Elizabeth (Hayward) Gates, married February 8, 1831, Oliver Wellington Kendall, son of Oliver and Lucy (Wellington) Kendall, who was born in Ashby, September 17, 1805, and died in Lexington, May 8, 1885; she died there September 12, 1889.

She was never strong, and her last years were those of great feebleness, yet her quiet Christian life of patience and trust in God made her presence in the home dear to her family, and to all who knew her in other relations. She and her husband were devoted members of the Unitarian Church for fifty years. He was identified with the town of Lexington for more than half a century. When he first settled there in 1831, he was a carpenter and master builder, but this occupation was given up on account of his health. He served the town as undertaker for thirty-eight years, and as constable for twenty-six years; also taking charge of the Town Hall for a greater part of that time. He was sexton of the Unitarian Church for thirty-four years. As his pastor said of him, "He made no pretension, but had something heroic in his nature, being faithful to duty at whatever cost to himself; he was kind and sympathetic in his home and neighborhood."

Children, born in Lexington:

23 I. FRANCIS OLIVER KENDALL, born Jan. 18, 1834.

24 II. MARY ELIZABETH KENDALL, born Sept. 4, 1836.

12

Anna White Gates, daughter of Paul and Elizabeth (Hayward) Gates, married April 6, 1836, Oliver Whitcomb, son of Samuel and Lydia (Tenney) Whitcomb, who was born in Boxborough, August 5, 1807,* and died in Littleton, June 24, 1887; she died there June 26, 1902. She attracted all who met her, by her loving, cheerful spirit, and winning manner. Her trust in God never wavered, even in the great sorrow of her life, — the loss of her only child, a beautiful little girl of five years.

Mr. and Mrs. Whitcomb were very hospitable, and their hearty welcome brought many visitors to their home. They were members of the Unitarian Church in Littleton, and on the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage the church showed them much respect by a grand public reception. It is a remarkable fact that the married children in her father's family, — she, her sister Mary, and her brothers Howard and Pearly, should all have lived to enjoy unbroken married life, for over fifty years.

Child, born in Littleton:

1. Anna Elizabeth Whitcomb, born May 4, 1840; died July 5, 1845.

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* This year, while at variance with that given in the Whitcomb Genealogy, p. 231, follows with authority the family record.

Anna W. Whitcomb

Oliver Whitcomb

Paul Cooper

L. Clementine Gates.

13

Paul Gates, son of Paul and Elizabeth (Hayward) Gates, married October 20, 1879, Lydia Clementine Damon, daughter of Jonas Barrett and Joanna (Randall) Damon of Ashby, and died March 26, 1893.

He taught school with success for several years in Ashby and in Mason, N. H., and then purchased a farm in the southern part of Ashby, where he spent the remainder of his days. He did not marry until late in life, but lived alone in a large brick house* where he hospitably entertained many visitors, although having little assistance in the work about the house or on the farm. He was a great reader and was much interested in all questions relating to State and National welfare. He was cordial in manner and individual in character, and much beloved by relatives and friends. He represented the town in the Legislature of 1864.

His wife, who survives him, was a true helpmate and devoted to his interests. She is a woman of literary tastes, of extensive information, and a fine conversationalist. Mr. and Mrs. Gates were both earnest members of the First Parish Church in Ashby. She now resides in Worcester.

14

Elizabeth Howard Gates, daughter of Howard and Clarissa (Kendall) Gates, married November 29, 1849,

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* See Addenda.

William Henry Saul. The ceremony, which was performed by the Rev. Asa Bullard, took place on Thanksgiving eve, at the Congregational Church in Fitchburg. They have resided in Cambridge, in the house in which they now dwell, since August, 1857. They have brought up their family of children wisely and well, and have furnished to the rising generation a good example of a true and permanent home. Mrs. Saul has an attractive sweetness of character, which has endeared her not only to her own family, but to a large circle of relatives and friends.

Mr. Saul is a son of Capt. Thomas and Sarah (Foye) Saul, and was born in Salem, December 18, 1825. His name is an adopted one, having been taken from the Bible by his grandfather, who was a prisoner on board a French frigate; upon escaping he changed his name to avoid recapture.

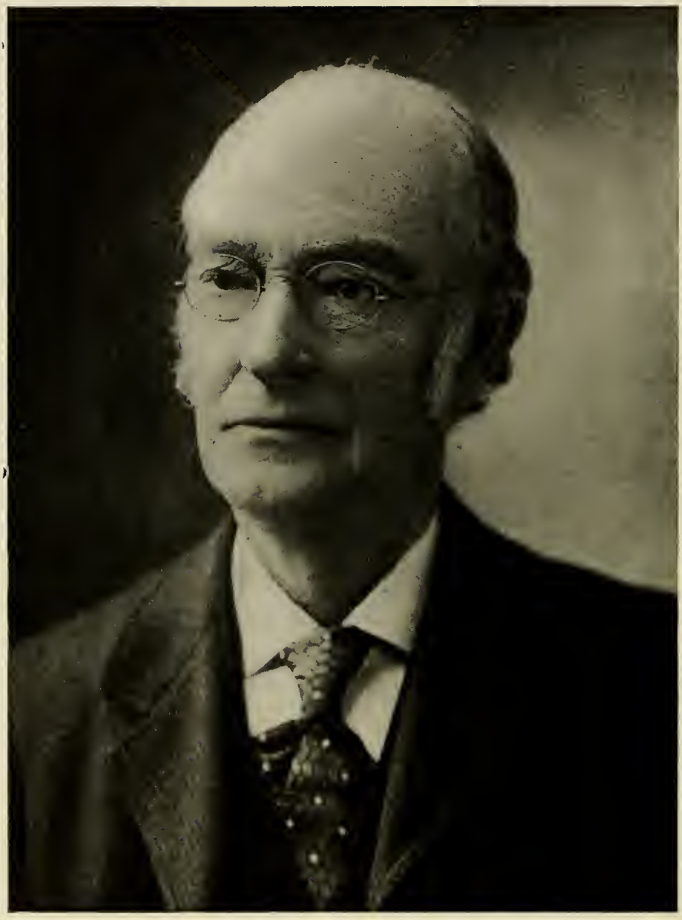
Children:

25 I. WILLIAM BROOKS SAUL, born in Boston, Feb. 7, 1851.

II. CLARENCE AUGUSTUS SAUL, born in Boston, Aug. 27, 1852; resides in Cambridge, and is book-keeper for the National Biscuit Co.

III. ELIZABETH CLARISSA SAUL, born in Cambridge, July 26, 1860; for fifteen years clerk at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

26 IV. CHARLOTTE FOYE SAUL, born in Cambridge, Sept. 19, 1862.



Julius K. Gates.

15

Julius Kendall Gates married (1), June 28, 1865, Charlotte Elizabeth Jones, daughter of Marlborough Turner and Ann (Snow) Jones, of West Townsend, who was born August 31, 1839, and died November 24, 1876. She was an interesting and lovely woman, whose early death was much lamented by a large circle of friends. He married (2), April 25, 1878, Mrs. Nancy Nichols Richardson, daughter of Seth and Nancy (Nichols) Fairbanks, and widow of Solon Oscar Richardson, of Fitchburg,—an estimable woman, who has gained the affection of the Gates family, ever giving them a hearty welcome to her home, extending a helping hand, and sympathizing in their joys and sorrows.

Mr. Gates has always been a resident of Ashby, although when a young man he taught school in Lunenburg and Fitchburg. He has ever evinced a deep interest in the welfare of the town, which he has served efficiently in various capacities,—as Selectman nine years, as member of the School Board twelve years, and as Treasurer since 1889. In 1904 he was Representative to the General Court. As a worker in the First Parish Church he is faithful and fearless, and stands for its highest good. He has settled many estates, and enjoys to a large degree the confidence and trust of the people. Ever ready to assist the distressed and needy, he has proved himself to be a kind and helpful neighbor and friend.

Without fulsome praise he may be called one of the most useful, reliable and respected men in Ashby to-day.

Child, born in Ashby:

1. Flora, born June 28, 1866; died Aug. 12, 1866.

16

Clara Rebecca Gates, daughter of Howard and Clarissa (Kendall) Gates, married October 9, 1860, Josiah Haskell Reed, son of Reuben and Mary (Willard) Reed, who was born February 12, 1827, and died March 22, 1890. She died August 16, 1884.

In her youth she lived with her parents on the farm, a beloved and useful daughter. When about twenty years of age she went to Lexington, where she was engaged for some time as a dressmaker. Wherever duty called her she made friends, and was loved and honored for her modest and sweet personality and her faithful performance of every task. She was devoted to her home and children, and no effort was spared to give them a good education. They all graduated at the Lexington High School with an honorable record. Her husband, a man of genial disposition, was in sympathy with her, and they always had a hearty welcome for the friends who enjoyed the pleasure of a visit at their house. He was a capable farmer, and with his brother cultivated the estate left them by their father. Here, upon the Reed homestead, Mr. and Mrs. Reed spent their early married life, but in later years a new house was erected

RESIDENCE OF JULIUS K. GATES, ASHBY, MASS.

near the old one, which became the home of the family until 1882, when Mr. Reed purchased his brother's interest in the farm, and moved from the new house back to the old one, where he resided at the time of his death.

Children:

27 I. FRANK HASKELL REED, born Dec. 26, 1862.

II. ALICE GATES REED, born Aug. 25, 1864; she has resided in New Jersey for several years, and is now travelling abroad.

III. MARY WILLARD REED, born July 4, 1868; married Sept. 11, 1900, Edward Furber Miller, Professor of Steam Engineering in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

17

SUSAN HARTWELL GATES, daughter of Howard and Clarissa (Kendall) Gates, married September 10, 1857, Edward White, son of Abraham Moore and Susanna (Wetherbee) White, who was born in Acton, April 22, 1836.

She was educated in the schools of Ashby and Littleton and at Lunenburg Academy. She also attended a school in Boston, residing at the time with her sister, Mrs. Saul. She then taught successfully in the district schools of Ashby and Townsend until her marriage. She was the witty one of the Gates girls, and they were sure of a good time if Susan could be among them. Her cheerfulness has carried herself and many others through

the trying experiences of life. She possesses strong Christian faith, hope and courage.

Mr. White at one time was a manufacturer of wooden ware in Townsend, but for several years has been engaged in farming. The family reside on the Gates homestead in Ashby, which was purchased in 1799, and the descendants are glad that the old home is still occupied by a daughter of Howard Gates and a granddaughter of Paul Gates. Mrs. White is loyal to the memory of her ancestors, and follows their example in her cordial welcome to the relatives and friends who come to visit the homestead, which has so many tender associations for them. A family gathering with Mr. and Mrs. White is to be remembered with pleasure. He and his wife have the happy faculty of making their home attractive to other people's children as well as their own, and boys especially enjoy the companionship of Mr. White, who always has a good influence over them.

Children:

28 I. Howard Bertram White, born in Townsend, June 14, 1858.

II. Annie Elizabeth White, born in Rindge, N. H., July 15, 1860; died Feb. 4, 1863.

29 III. Caroline Augusta White, born in Townsend, June 2, 1864.

IV. Clara Sophia White, born in Townsend, July 25, 1866; died Sept. 3, 1867.

30 V. Edward Albert White, born in Townsend, May 23, 1872.

Edward H. Gates

18

Mary Caroline Gates, daughter of Howard and Clarissa (Kendall) Gates, married December 26, 1878, Myron Charles Wilder, son of Josiah and Susan (Flint) Wilder, who was born in Ashby, February 12, 1834. She remained at the old home with her parents until after her father's death, assisting them in their work, and entertaining with them the many relatives and friends who came to enjoy their unbounded hospitality.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilder have a pleasant home in Ashby, where she continues to welcome guests with the old-time cordiality. She has for many years successfully taught the infant class in the Sunday School of the First Parish, and is always ready to assist in the work of the Church. Her services have been freely given to the sick and suffering, and she is ever thinking of another's comfort rather than her own.

Mr. Wilder is a fine mechanic and has a profitable business.

19

Edward Howard Gates, son of Howard and Clarissa (Kendall) Gates, married October 22, 1874, Emma Parks, daughter of Theophilus Cushing and Sarah Ann (Parks) Burr of Belmont, who was born February 5, 1853, and died October 31, 1878. He died April 1, 1882.

He was educated in the Ashby district schools and Academy, and afterwards went to a business college in

Poughkeepsie, N. Y. In 1868 he went to Portland, Maine, and became a member of the firm of Kendall & Whitney, dealers in agricultural implements and seeds. He was a bright young man, of quick thought, cheerful disposition and attractive manner, and had a moral strength of character which hated all meanness of action. In the summer of 1881 he removed from Portland to Ashby, where his death occurred.

Mrs. Gates was of a happy, even disposition, devoted to her home and family; and sad indeed was it for her husband and friends to see her fade away while so young and beautiful.

Children, born in Portland:

I. Clara Burr, born July 31, 1875; died Oct. 19, 1897; a graduate of Burdett Business College in 1896.

II. Florence Kendall, born Dec. 13, 1876; a designer of decorative work, and a member of the Massachusetts Society of Arts and Crafts.

20

Samuel Pearly Gates, son of Pearly and Mary (Burr) Gates, married in Plymouth, October 26, 1871, Marcia Elizabeth Jackson, daughter of Jacob and Joan (Holmes) Jackson, who was born in Plymouth, August 16, 1843, and died in Bridgewater, January 20, 1873.

He assisted on his father's farm, and was educated in the schools of his native town and at the Bridgewater State Normal School, from which he graduated in Feb-

Samuel P. Gates

ruary, 1857. Soon after graduation he entered the employment of Bates, Hyde & Co., of Bridgewater, manufacturers of cotton gins, and has remained in the same office up to the present time (1906), with the exception of a period during the Civil War, 1863–64. He was Treasurer of the Eagle Cotton Gin Company (which succeeded Bates, Hyde & Co.), serving continuously from its incorporation in 1877, and during its last years was also its President and controlled its affairs.* He has always found his occupation very interesting and enjoyable.

His association with Mr. Joseph A. Hyde, the manager of Bates, Hyde & Co., and the other members of the company, was very pleasant, and their kindness was highly appreciated. It is not often that one passes so large a part of his life in the same office and the same room. He has made several trips to the Southern States in connection with the cotton gin business.

He was chosen Treasurer of the Bridgewater Savings Bank at its organization in 1872, and has held the office to the present time. He is President of the Bridgewater Co-operative Bank, and of the Bridgewater Shoe Factory Co. He is a Director in the Continental Gin Co., and Cashier of its Bridgewater branch.

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* Bates, Hyde & Co. began business as a co-partnership in 1833. On the death of Mr. Hyde in 1877, the firm was incorporated as the Eagle Cotton Gin Co. In 1899 it became the Bridgewater branch of the Continental Gin Co., of which the principal office is in Birmingham, Ala. The Eagle cotton gins are shipped to all the cotton-growing countries of the world.

He enlisted in the United States Army in Washington, D. C., May 2, 1863, for five years, and was detailed for duty in the Adjutant General's Office in the War Department, under Major Samuel Breck, Assistant Adjutant General, afterwards Adjutant General, of the United States Army.

In 1864 the cotton gin business having revived, Bates, Hyde & Co., wished him to return to their office in Bridgewater, and through the influence of Major Breck, he was given an honorable discharge from the Army by special act of the Secretary of War, Edwin M. Stanton, and August 29, 1864, he again took his place with his old employers in Bridgewater.

His experiences in Washington were very interesting, where he had an opportunity to see many of the most distinguished men of those stirring times, — Lincoln, Grant, Sherman, Meade, Burnside, and many others. He attended several of Lincoln's receptions and shook hands with him, and in going to and from the War Department occasionally met the President, and was deeply impressed with his evident consciousness of the great responsibilities which he was carrying for the nation.

In addition to the office work in the War Department the men there were drilled by an army officer, and in emergencies were placed on guard duty about Washington. It was frequently rumored that all were to be "ordered to the front," but this did not occur.

RESIDENCE OF SAMUEL P. GATES, BRIDGEWATER, MASS.

He is a member of Bridgewater Post 205, G. A. R., and his old friend General Wilmon W. Blackmar, when chosen Commander-in-chief of the Grand Army in 1904, appointed him as one of his aides. Mr. Gates had hoped to accompany him to the National Encampment in Denver, Col., in September, 1905, as one of his National staff, but General Blackmar's lamented death prevented him from carrying out his intention, and on July 23, 1905, he attended, officially, that officer's funeral in Boston. He is a member of the Society of the Army of the Potomac, of the Sons of the American Revolution, of the Old Bridgewater Historical Society, and of several other societies.

During their married life Mr. and Mrs. Gates made their home in Bridgewater with Dr. Lewis G. Lowe, whose wife was her sister. Mrs. Gates received her education at Plymouth, and in the Normal School at Bridgewater. She was literary in her tastes, and enjoyed the society of cultured people. She was a woman of high ideals, and of dignity and strength of character; her early death caused a lasting sorrow to her husband and friends.

It was through the influence and kindness of Dr. Abraham T. Lowe and his wife, Eliza Butler (Burr) Lowe, an aunt of Mr. Gates, and who also lived in Bridgewater, that he went to the Normal School, and their son, Dr. Lewis G. Lowe, assisted him in getting a position in the cotton-gin office. He was fortunate in

having his home so long in the Lowe family. When they moved to Boston permanently, in 1893, Mr. Gates and his nephew, Gustavus Jackson Lowe, took up their abode with Mrs. Frances A. Parker, daughter of Mr. Joseph A. Hyde, his former employer. After her death in 1896, Mr. Gates purchased her house, and has since made it his home.

He has acted as executor, administrator, and trustee of many estates, and as Treasurer of his Church and of various other organizations. He is one of the Trustees of the Bridgewater Public Library. In common with his brother and sister, he inherited a very strong attachment for Ashby, and the Church of his boyhood's home, and his early interest in their welfare continues. It is a great satisfaction that the old homestead, which was built about 1767, remains in the possession of the family, and has undergone so few changes, that it is a pleasure to visit it.

Naturally of a social disposition, Mr. Gates has greatly enjoyed his long life among the Bridgewater people, and deeply appreciates their constant kindness and friendship. He has always kept up his hearty interest in the Bridgewater Normal School, his *Alma Mater*. When he went to Bridgewater he attended the New Church (Swedenborgian), with the Lowe family, and later became one of the members of that society; he has at all times taken a deep interest in its welfare, and has assisted it substantially.

In politics he is a Republican, but has never sought public office. He has given much personal attention to charitable, religious, and educational movements, and his sympathy for people in trouble is very strong.

Child :

1. Marcia Jackson, born Jan. 11, 1873 ; died July 18, 1873.

21

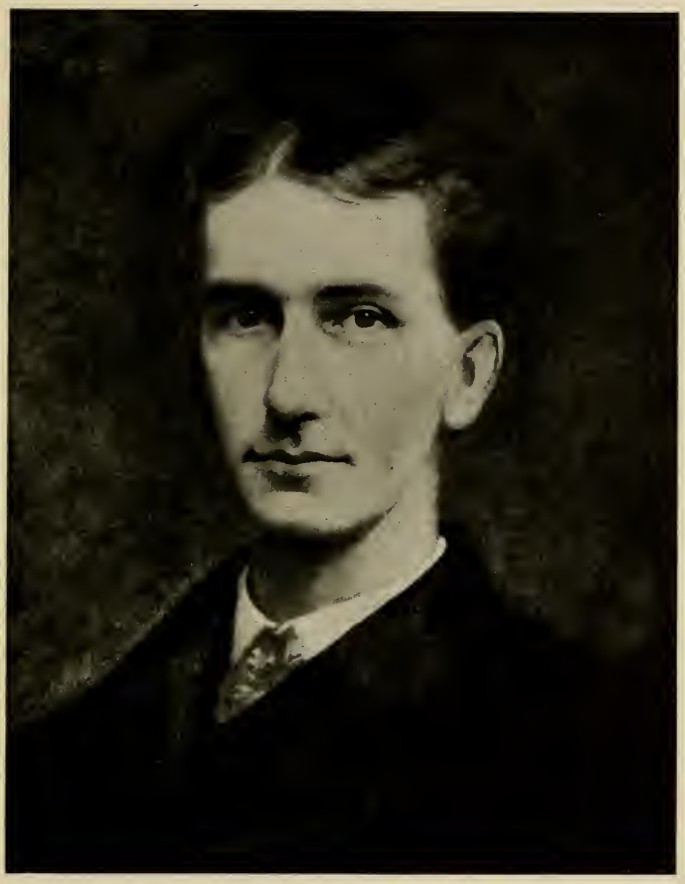
George Lewis Gates, son of Pearly and Mary (Burr) Gates, married March 5, 1870, Hattie Patten Clark, daughter of Peter Hobart and Sarah Barnes (Patten) Clark of New Ipswich, N. H.

In his youth he attended the schools of his native town, and assisted on his father's farm. He early developed good business ability, and in October, 1858, entered the "country store" of Mr. Joshua E. Crane of Bridgewater, Mass., in which town his brother Samuel had been employed for some time. He remained with Mr. Crane until July, 1862, when he went to Boston, into the large crockery store of Mr. George W. Bassett. His constitution was never very strong, and the confinement of the store was unfavorable to his health ; therefore, at the end of one year, with the assistance of friends, he purchased Mr. Brown's interest in the Brown & Severance Stable on Charles Street, near Beacon Street, Boston (now, 1906, Kenny & Clark's), and about three years later, April 1, 1867, bought out his partner,

Mr. Rufus O. Severance. In this business, which was first established in 1828, he continued until 1870, when his health failed. Mr. and Mrs. Gates spent the spring of that year in Europe, and the following spring in South Carolina, hoping that he would regain his health, but no permanent benefit resulted, and his strength gradually declined.

He and his wife were very fond of the country, and especially of their native towns, and during the three and a half years of his illness, they enjoyed the many drives in that vicinity, and the beautiful scenery of which they never seemed to tire. Their fondness for animals added much to their interest on the farm and in their drives. They lived in Boston only a portion of the time, making their home largely with his parents on the old farm in Ashby, where he died May 13, 1873, among his people and the scenes he loved so well. Although not physically strong he had unusual energy, perseverance, and ambition; and these qualities, together with his good business judgment and many warm friends (for being of a social nature he had a large circle), accounted for his success. He always kept up his interest in the First Parish in Ashby, and assisted it liberally.

Mrs. Gates, who survives her husband, is a fine musician, and generous in using her talent, which gave much pleasure to him and his friends. During his long illness she was very devoted to her husband, and endeared herself to all his family and friends.



Geo R. Gates.

22

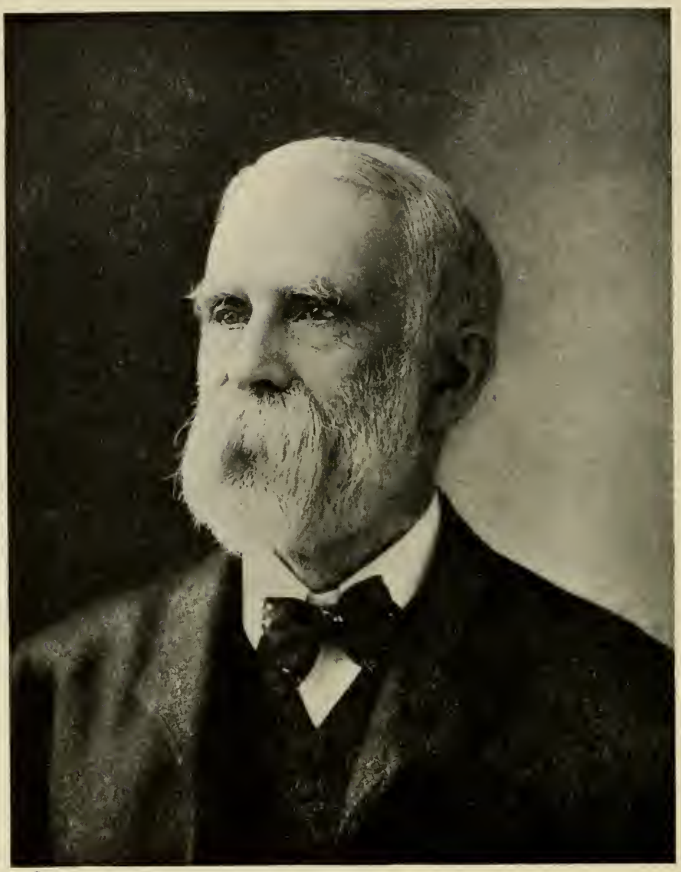
Mary Elizabeth Gates, only daughter of Pearly and Mary (Burr) Gates, married June 1, 1869, the Rev. George Stetson Shaw, son of Elnathan Tabor and Mary Ann (Stetson) Shaw.

At the age of thirteen, having previously been a pupil in the Ashby schools, she attended school in Brookline for one year, and boarded in the home of her aunt, Mrs. Abraham T. Lowe. She then returned to the home schools and also studied music for a time; later she attended the Bridgewater Academy, and afterwards taught four years in the district schools of Ashby and gave lessons in music. She took a prominent part in the choir of her church, also in the Sunday school and the other activities of the Society. After her marriage she joined her husband in church and benevolent work, and they can truly be said to be spending their lives in ministrations to others.

Mr. Shaw was born in Bristol, R. I., April 8, 1837, and when two years of age his parents removed to New Bedford. At the age of seven he was put out to live on a farm in East Freetown, Mass. At sixteen he returned to New Bedford, and for two years worked with his father at ship and house-carpentering. Later, until he was twenty-one, he was an apprentice to Ebenezer Keen, of the firm of Pierce & Keen, of New Bedford. His early education was in the district schools. At twenty-

one he entered the Meadville, Penn., Theological School, where he graduated June 26, 1862, and was ordained to the Christian ministry November 9 of that year.

His first impulse toward the ministry, which has been his life work, was his desire to become a foreign missionary. In November, 1862, he was appointed chaplain of the Missouri State Penitentiary at Jefferson City. In 1864 he enlisted in Company C, 27th Missouri Infantry; his first battle was at Resaca, Ga., where a bullet from the enemy destroyed the gun in his hands. He was with the army during the siege of Atlanta, and in Sherman's march to the sea, and through the Carolinas. At Raleigh, N. C., he was promoted to the chaplaincy of the 135th U. S. colored Infantry, which was discharged at Louisville, Ky., November 2, 1865. For the next two years he remained in the West, acting as missionary or settled pastor in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, and Michigan. Returning to Massachusetts, he came to Ashby for a single Sunday, July 18, 1868, and has now been pastor there thirty-eight years. During his residence he has been active and earnest not only for his church but for the community at large. He was instrumental in founding the Free Public Library, and has always been interested in the schools, visiting them freely whether on the Committee or otherwise. He has served in many ways, not only his own townsmen but the people of the neighboring towns, and is a true friend to all who are in trouble of any kind.



Frank O. Kendall

"Those who have enjoyed the gracious hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Shaw in their home, and have seen their devotion to their pastoral work, feel that, in a rare way, they indeed follow the Master's example, 'going about doing good' not only in their own parish, but in the homes of many others in the town of Ashby and vicinity."

Child, born in Ashby:

1. George Gates Shaw, born Sept. 16, 1871; died Oct. 1, 1871.

23

Francis Oliver Kendall, son of Oliver Wellington and Mary (Gates) Kendall, married January 15, 1860, Estelle Ditson, who was born in Boston, September 20, 1837, daughter of Thomas and Martha (Page) Ditson; he died in Lawrence, February 22, 1903.

When eighteen years of age he went to Leominster, serving as a clerk for J. C. Allen of that place, and subsequently became a salesman for George Turnbull & Co. of Boston, who were succeeded by Churchill & Watson. He remained in their employ until the breaking out of the Civil War. With the call for nine months' troops, he enlisted in the 45th (Cadet) Regiment, Company D, serving as Sergeant. He returned home with impaired health, and after recruiting somewhat, went into business in Marlborough. From there he removed to Lawrence in 1867, where the latter part of his life was spent. For

twenty-five years he was salesman for the well-known firm of Byron, Truell & Co. In 1898 he was appointed Assistant Postmaster at Lawrence, a position he filled until his death. He was loved and honored for his cheerful, generous heart, and the helpful spirit that he had for all about him. His wife, who survives him, received her education in Boston, where she was a medal graduate of the Lyman School in 1851, and a member of the initial class of the Girls' High and Normal School. She became a successful teacher, and in 1855 and 1856 taught in Putnam Seminary, Zanesville, Ohio. She was also Head Assistant in the Chapman School, East Boston, for several years. She now resides with her son in Lawrence, and is still interested in educational and literary pursuits, occasionally contributing articles to the magazines.

Child:

31 1. Charles Francis Kendall, born in Marlborough, March 28, 1865.

24

Mary Elizabeth Kendall, daughter of Oliver W. and Mary (Gates) Kendall, married March 27, 1862, Charles Harvey Bennett, son of James Harvey and Winifred (Knowles) Bennett. Having spent her life in the good old town of Lexington, she seems to have imbibed some of the spirit of courage and loyalty to duty which pervades the atmosphere of this historic place. May not

these sterling qualities be attributed in some measure also to the inheritance from her ancestors who were loyal and true in their day and generation? In thinking of her, one is carried back to the beautiful home life, where with song and precept, with filial and sisterly devotion, the period of her youth was passed. In the same home were spent the few short years of her married life, so tender and sacred that words fail to express her happiness. Her many friends can testify to the faith and trust with which she accepted the separation that followed; to the courage and fortitude with which she endured her loss, and to the sunshine and good cheer which her simple acts of love and service have brought into their lives. She has often repeated the line,

> "They also serve, who only stand and wait,"

in her quiet, cheery way; and surely her life and work have testified in double measure to the beautiful truth therein expressed. Mention should be made of her loyalty to the Church, and all it stands for, in the Unitarian faith. A valued teacher in the Sunday school for several years, she helped and encouraged the young, giving her strength and example to those entrusted to her care, that they might strive for that perfection which we all desire to attain.

Mr. Bennett was born in Boston, March 23, 1836. After finishing his school life at Chauncey Hall and

taking a trip to Spain, he entered business with his father, who was then a merchant in Boston. When the family removed to Lexington, father and son still continued in trade together until the former retired. After a year spent in Charlestown, Mr. Bennett returned to Lexington and went into the grocery business with Leonard A. Saville. He died July 8, 1864, leaving a pleasant memory as a devoted husband and son, and respected as well by those who knew him outside the family circle.

25

William Brooks Saul, son of William H. and Elizabeth H. (Gates) Saul, married June 18, 1875, Sarah Cordelia Davis, daughter of Mason and Harriet Caroline (Teele) Davis, who was born in Cambridgeport, January 16, 1853.

He is a successful merchant in Boston, with the firm of Cumner, Jones & Co., where he has been since leaving school. Mrs. Saul is a lady of ability, having a happy faculty in the management of her family.

Children, born in Cambridge:

i. William Fisher Saul, born June 9, 1876.
ii. Arthur Davis Saul, born April 25, 1878.
iii. Harold Gates Saul, born Sept. 29, 1887.
iv. Mason Davis Saul, born July 26, 1896.

26

Charlotte Foye Saul, daughter of William H. and Elizabeth H. (Gates) Saul, married September 28, 1886, Charles Augustus Hearsey, son of William Edward and Nancy Bakeman (Smith) Hearsey, of Cambridge, who was born in Boston, September 25, 1849. He was for many years Superintendent of the Boston Can Company, but is now engaged in raising fruit and poultry in the town of Stow. Before her marriage Mrs. Hearsey was a successful teacher, and now presides over a happy home.

Children :

i. Alice Gates Hearsey, born in Everett, Dec. 19, 1887.

ii. Evelyn Hearsey, born in Everett, April 25, 1891.

iii. Helen Elizabeth Hearsey, born in West Medford, Aug. 13, 1894.

27

Frank Haskell Reed, son of Josiah H. and Clara R. (Gates) Reed, married April 20, 1893, Gertrude Read Fobes, daughter of Edward and Annie Showell (Sturtevant) Fobes, who was born in Boston, January 6, 1870.

He is a dairyman, and resides on Lowell street, Lexington, in a house built in 1789, where the Reed family have dwelt for several generations. The first occupant of this estate was Reuben Reed, a native of Woburn, and a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (French) Reed. From him it descended to his nephew and namesake, who went

to live with him when a lad — Reuben Reed, son of Isaac, and grandfather of the present owner.

The three sons of Mr. and Mrs. Reed were born in Lexington, not only in the same house, but also in the same room, in which their father and grandfather were born. May they ever cherish and preserve the home of their ancestors, with its many heirlooms of interest and value. Mr. and Mrs. Reed well understand the art of entertaining their friends.

Children:

I. HASKELL REED, born June 4, 1894.
II. MALCOLM WILLARD REED, born Dec. 17, 1895.
III. KENDALL STURTEVANT REED, born Aug. 9, 1898.

28

HOWARD BERTRAM WHITE, son of Edward and Susan H. (Gates) White, married September 24, 1881, Bertha Sawtelle, daughter of Ithamar Bard and Martha Ann (Bills) Sawtelle, who was born in Townsend, May 14, 1858. He is a resident of Ayer, and President of the First National Bank there. His wife is a very intelligent, capable and benevolent lady.

Children, born in Acton:

I. ANNE SAWTELLE WHITE, born Aug. 1, 1882; married Oct. 5, 1904, Charles Alexander Normand, son of John C. and Mary Jane (Overend) Normand, who was born in Worcester, Oct. 13, 1869. For several years before her marriage she assisted her father in

his business. Mr. Normand, who was formerly in a Bank at Worcester, is now engaged in the manufacture of wire utensils.

II. HOWARD ARTHUR WHITE, born Jan. 26, 1884. He is at present connected with an elevator manufacturing company.

29

CAROLINE AUGUSTA WHITE, daughter of Edward and Susan H. (Gates) White, married September 23, 1885, Frank Zoheth Taylor, son of Zoheth and Marthaette (Tuttle) Taylor, who was born in Acton, September 25, 1859. She was a teacher before marriage. Her husband is a carpenter by trade. They reside in Acton, where they are useful members of society.

Child:

I. EDNA CHARLANA TAYLOR, born in Acton, Dec. 30, 1898.

30

EDWARD ALBERT WHITE, son of Edward and Susan H. (Gates) White, married June 30, 1903, Cora Anna Crittenden, daughter of Jerome and Elizabeth (Pomeroy) Crittenden, who was born in Tyringham, March 31, 1871.

He received his education at the Ashby High School and the Massachusetts Agricultural College, from which he graduated in 1895. He taught for two years in the Texas State College, and is now Professor of Botany, Forestry and Landscape Architecture in the Agricultural

College at Storrs, Conn. Mrs. White was a teacher for several years before her marriage, and is a very helpful wife.

31

Charles Francis Kendall, son of Francis O. and Estelle (Ditson) Kendall, married February 5, 1895, Letitia Evelyn Campbell, daughter of John and Letitia (McNulty) Campbell, who was born in New Bedford, January 18, 1871.

While yet a child, his parents removed from Marlborough to Lawrence, where he graduated from the High School in June, 1882. The following August he entered the employ of Potter & Wrightington, of Boston, and still remains with this firm. His wife is much interested in church and benevolent work.

ADDENDA.

ASHBY.

ASHBY is a small and beautiful hill town in the northern part of Massachusetts, about forty-seven miles northwest from Boston. It was incorporated in 1767, and was settled by a religious, intelligent, industrious and courageous class of people, who believed in the Church, the school, and a democratic form of government. Their descendants have maintained the faith of their forefathers, and supported these institutions throughout all the years to the present time. There is great sympathy and an equality of feeling among its inhabitants,—a helpfulness of one another in the spirit of Christianity.

The early history of Ashby is naturally merged in that of Ashburnham, Fitchburg and Townsend, of which towns it formed a part before its incorporation. The settlements in this vicinity were delayed through fear of Indian incursions, and it is not positively known who were the first inhabitants of the town ; but as early as

1739, John Fitch came with his family from Bradford, and settled on territory at that time belonging to Lunenburg. He purchased one hundred acres of land about seven miles northwest of the Lunenburg meeting-house, and there, "by industry, built him a house, and improved so much land as to raise provisions for his growing family and some to spare, whereby he entertained and refreshed travellers." When the war between France and England broke out, divers of the inhabitants of Lunenburg, knowing what security a garrison house would furnish, urged Mr. Fitch to build one, and also offered timely assistance. After its completion, a guard of soldiers was ordered there, and it became a place of "resort and refreshment" for scouts from Townsend, Northfield and other towns. In July, 1748, the garrison was attacked by Indians, and after a brave fight, in which two soldiers were killed and the buildings burned, Mr. Fitch and his family were carried to Canada and, as he expressed it, "entered into a melancholy captivity." They were ransomed a few months later, and returned by way of Providence, R. I., where Mrs. Fitch died. A substantial monument now commemorates that tragic event.

Mr. Fitch claimed the honor of naming the town, and was one of its first selectmen. This garrison house was located in the southern part of Ashby, on the farm which Paul Gates purchased in 1839, and "upon the rise of land near the turn of the road leading from

RESIDENCE OF PAUL GATES, ASHBY, MASS.

Ashby to Ashburnham, and on the old road from Lunenburg to Northfield." Nearly opposite is the large brick house, shown in the illustration, in which he lived.* It was built by Oliver Kendall, the father of Mrs. Howard Gates, and she was born there. The "old road" which winds over the hill, extends through Ashburnham and Winchendon to Northfield, and is the oldest one in town. It was built in 1733 for the use of the inhabitants of this frontier settlement, who needed the assistance of their neighbors in Lancaster, Groton and Lunenburg, in protecting them from the savages.

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* See page 69.

MRS. MARY GATES.

THERE is in the possession of the family, a Bible printed in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1775, which is well preserved, with not a leaf torn nor missing. It once belonged to Mrs. Mary Gates, who was the daughter of Peter and Lydia Graves, and married (intention Nov. 23, 1751) her cousin Jonas Brown, son of Deliverance and Elizabeth (Graves) Brown, of Stow, who was born March 10, 1731, and died there while a young man. They had three children. Mrs. Brown's second husband was Ensign Silas Gates, who died in Stow, June 16, 1779. When her son Silas removed to Wendell, she made her home for a time in his family, but the latter years of her life were passed in Ashby with her son Paul, and after his death with her grandson, Howard Gates, who lived on the old homestead, where she died June 19, 1831, at the advanced age of nearly ninety-six years.

Mary Gates

No one now living is able to give an extended sketch of the life of Mrs. Gates, and we can only judge of her by her silhouette and the character of her descendants.

From this Bible the following record has been taken:

MARY GATES HER BIBLE

Mary Gates born august ye 10th 1735
Lydia Brown Born March ye 24th 1752*
Sarah Brown Born Dec ye 1st 1755†
Daniel Brown Born Mar ye 9, 1758‡
Silas Gates Born March ye 27 : 1770
Paul Gates Born Dec ye 16 1771
Mary Gates Bible Anno Dom : 1787

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* Married (intention Oct. 2, 1772) Nathaniel Wilder, of Westminster.
† Married Mar. 15, 1779, Abel Bigelow, of Lancaster.
‡ Married Feb. 19, 1783, Sarah Whitney.

ESTATE OF SILAS GATES.

IN the Middlesex County Probate Office, at Cambridge, Mass., there are a number of documents* relative to the administration of the estate of Silas Gates, which show the final disposition of his landed property, some abstracts from which will doubtless be of interest to his descendants. There are also several other papers which have been preserved in the family, and which give additional light on the same subject. These documents are printed verbatim below.

AGREEMENT OF HEIRS FOR ADMINISTRATION AND APPRAISERS.

To the Honrreble oliver Prefcott Esq Judge of Probait wee The Subscribers Heirs to Ensin Silas Gates Late of Stow Decsed have Agreed that Deacon Samuel Gates of Stow Is to Administer on said Decesed Estate and That we Have agreed

* See File No. 6255.

that Cor^{ll}: Jonathan Hapgood Leut: Jabez Brown and m^{r} Stephen Stow Be Apprisers to said Estate as wittnes our Hands

Stow September the 7 1779

widdow Mary Gates
Joshua Brown
Daniel Hooker
Oliver Gates Jun
Eunice Gates

ABSTRACT OF INVENTORY.*

Stow, September ye 30th 1779

A True Inventory of all the Real and Personal Estate that was Shewn to us the Subscribers that Silas Gates Late of Stow in the County of Middlefex Gentelman Deceafed Died Seized of in said County — viz —

The Dweling Houfe and Barn and about Ninety acres of Land adjoining apprized at	£6500 – 0 – 0
Personal Estate	2538 – 0 – 0
	£9038 – 0 – 0

Jonathan Hapgood
Jabez Brown
Stephen Stow
Apprizers

PETITION OF WIDOW AND HEIRS FOR PARTITION.

To the Honorable oliver Prescott Esqr Judg of Probate we the Subscribers Heirs to Silas Gates Late of Stow Decesed Gentleman Have agred that Cor^{p} Jonathan Hapgood Leu^{t}: Jabez

* For items see Record File, as cited.

Brown and m^r Stephen Stow Shall set of the widows thirds from the said Decesed Estate we also Desire your Honor to Give these Said Gentlemen a warrant for that Besnes as wittnes our hands

Stow October the 12 1779

widow Mary Gates
Josha Brown
Elisha Gates
Oliver Gates Juner

RETURN OF THE APPRAISERS WHO SET OFF THE WIDOW'S DOWER, AND ITS ACCEPTANCE.

Wee Sett of To Mary the Said Decaſed widow as one full Third Part of the Said Estate for her Dower or thirds Two Certain Peices Land . . . . Alſo one Small Peice of Meadow Containing about one acre . . . . alſo the Easterly Part of the Dweling houſe of the said Decaſed viz all the upright End and chamber and the Seller from the Stairs the Northerly part of the Stairs To the wall at the eaſt end the owner of the other part Liberty To Paſs and repaſs into the s^d seller and into the garret and Back Chamber the said widow to have the uſe of one third of the yard where the well is and the uſe of the well and the yard the Northerly side of Houſe as it is Now fenced alſo the Northwester part of Barn Beginning at the Easterly Side of the Great Doors and so By the flour to the Poſt then Northerly streigh To the End that Part of the Barn with the Liberty of the flour to thresh out her grain and Carry in her hay the Heirs to cart their hay Through the thirds at the uſual place. The whole of ye third of said real est apprized at two

thousand one hundred and sixty six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence

one Third of the Moveables the said widow has Taken by her and the heirs Defire Being apprized at Six hundred and Sixty Six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence.

Stow November ye 1st 1779

JONATHAN HAPGOOD
JABEZ BROWN
STEPHEN STOW
apprizers

Middlefex 3 November 1779

I accept this return & order the fame to be recorded.

OLIVER PRESCOTT *J prob*

ACCEPTANCE BY HEIRS.

Stow November ye 1st 1779

We the Subscribers whofe Names are under Written Being the within Named widdow and Heirs of the said Deceafed Estate acknowledge our Selves fully satiffied and Contented with said Divifion as witnefs our hands

MARY GATES widdo
JOSHUA BROWN
JONATHAN WOOD
OLIVER GATES Jun
DANIEL HOOKER
ELISHA GATES gardian for Silas gates and pall gats
EUNICE GATES
JOSHUA BROWN Attorney for Jonathan Gate

THE AGREEMENT OF SILAS GATES' HEIRS REGARDING THE SETTLEMENT OF THE REAL ESTATE.*

To the Honorable oliver Prescott Esqr

Judge of Probate for the County of Middlefex ~

This May Certifie that wee the Subscribers Heirs to The Estate of Enſ^{n} Silas Gates Late of Stow Deceaſed Have agreed that the real Estate of the s^{d} Deceased Be Settled on the Two Eldeſt sons of the s^{d} Deceaſed viz Jonathan & oliver Gates as they have agreed to Pay To the other Heirs Eleven Hundred Pounds Each

If your Honour in your wisdom shall think proper To Settle s^{d} Estate as above you will oblige your Humble Servt^{s}—

JONATHAN GATES
OLIVER GATES Jun
JOSHUA BROWN
DANIEL HOOKER
ELISHA GATES Gardion for
Silas Gates and Paw[l] Gates

Stow April ye 11th 1780

BOND GIVEN BY PAUL AND SILAS GATES FOR THE SUPPORT OF THEIR WIDOWED MOTHER.

Know all men by these presents that I Paul Gates of Ashby in the County of Middlesex & Commonwealth of Massachusetts Yeoman & Silas Gates of Wendell in the County of Hampshire yeoman stand firmly bound and obliged unto Mary Gates of said

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* See page 19.

Ashby Widow in the full & just sum of four hundred dollars to be paid to the said Mary, her heirs Executors or Administrators to the which payment well and truly to be made we bind ourselves our heirs Executors & Administrators firmly by these presents Sealed with our Seals — Dated this Seventeenth day of March A. D. 1808. The condition of the above obligation is such that if the said Paul & Silas their heirs Executors or Administrators shall well & truly support & maintain the said Mary Gates in sickness & in health in a suitable & reasonable manner both for food & clothing & shall take good care of her the said Mary during her natural life then the above obligation to be null & void otherwise to remain in full force power & virtue.

Signed Sealed
& Delivered in
presence of JONAS B. WILDER
REBEKAH WILDER

PAUL GATES
SILAS GATES

Mary Gates of Ashby, widow, in consideration of one hundred dollars, to be paid, and in consideration of five dollars to be paid, annually by Paul Gates of said Ashby, yeoman, and Silas Gates of Wendell, Hampshire Co., yeoman, have leased to them a certain piece of land and the buildings appertaining thereto, situated in Stow, being the same land and buildings which were set off to me, for my dower, in the estate of Silas Gates my late husband, and including two acres of meadow land belonging to my said dower or thirds in said estate, to have and to hold.

15 Mar. 1808.

The heirs of Paul Gates deceased Dr. to Oliver Kendall, guardian for said heirs, To paying for the support of Widow Mary Gates, their grandmother, from Apr. 1, 1829, to June 19, 1831, late deceased, including interest, funeral charges, and all expenses from April 1, 1829, to the above date, each share of expense $31.25, total $187.50.

[The heirs were Howard, Pearly, Mary, Ann White, Paul, and Cyrus Pierce Gates. See pages 38 and 39.]

CONVEYANCE BY THE HEIRS.

Know all men by these presents that we whose names are hereunto subscribed and seals affixed in consideration of four hundred dollars to us paid by Ephraim Gates of Stow in the County of Middlesex Commonwealth of Massachusetts yeoman the receipt whereof we do hereby acknowledge do by these presents remise release and forever quit claim unto the said Ephraim Gates his heirs and assigns all our right title interest and estate which we now have or ever had or of right ought to have in and to all the real estate of Silas Gates late of Stow deceased that was set out to Mary Gates his widow as and for her dower in said deceased Estate. To Have and To Hold the above granted premises with all our right title interest and estate in and to the privileges and appurtenances to the said premises belonging to him the said Ephraim Gates his heirs and assigns forever, and we the undersigned for our selves our heirs executors and administrators do covenant with the said Ephraim Gates his heirs and assigns that we will and our heirs executors and administrators shall warrant and defend the same to the said Ephraim Gates his heirs and assigns forever against the law-

ful claims and demands of all persons claiming from or under us and none other.

In Witness Whereof we the undersigners have hereunto set our hands and Seals this third day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty one.

Signed Sealed & delivered in presence of us.

James B. Brown
Lucy M. Brown
Jotham Gates
Mary Gates
Paul Taylor
Annah Taylor
Silas Walcutt
Avis Walcutt X Her Mark
Guy Brown
Eunice Brown
Jeremiah Wood
Howard Gates
Pearley Gates
Aaron Willard Jr
Nancy Nolen by her Attorney Aaron Willard Jr
Jacob Hooker Attorney for Mary Hooker
Paul Gates for Daniel Gates
Norman Osgood
Eliza Osgood
Jonathan Wood
Ann W. Gates
Elihu Gates
Mary Gates
Isaac B. Woodward
Nathan Sweetser Agent for Clarissa Gates Guardian for Silas Josiah Gates
Ann Gates
Hiram Brown
David Barns

STOW IN THE REVOLUTION.

STOW was an earnest and active town, during the Revolutionary War, in furnishing men and means for the successful prosecution of the great struggle for liberty. Not for a day, during that entire period, did its patriotism flag; and in every possible way the Continental army was aided. Provisions were purchased, fire-arms supplied, clothing provided, and the needy families of the soldiers were cared for.

The Lexington Alarm aroused the intense patriotism of the inhabitants, and in the battle of Bunker Hill, which followed a few weeks later, nearly forty men from Stow took part. The names of five soldiers from the town who died in their country's service are recorded on the tablet in the Randall Memorial Library in Stow. One of these was Daniel,* son of Silas, whose will is printed below, and two of the others bore the name of

* See page 17.

Gates. The lists of the names of soldiers in the Revolution, as printed by the State,* show that nearly one hundred Gates men went forth from different parts of the Colony of the Massachusetts Bay, to take part in the achievement of independence.

The family of Silas Gates showed a marked example of patriotism and devotion to duty, for not only did he himself enlist, but his sons, with perhaps one exception, and his sons-in-law, answered their country's call to arms. Their record was a noble one, and "such men seldom fail in their opposition to despotism."

It might be added that the liberty-loving citizens of this patriotic town voted in favor of a government independent of Great Britain, July 1, 1776, three days before the Declaration of Independence was signed.

The following letter, written to the Committee of Correspondence at Boston, at a time when courageous words had their true value, is found recorded in the town books of Stow, and it is believed has never been printed in full before: —

February 8, 1773, at a meeting of the town of Stow legally assembled by adjournment from the 25 of January last the Committee appointed on the s^d^ 25th of January last reported the following letter to the Committee of Correspondence at Boston which was read and accepted

The Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the town of Stow in town meeting legally assembled by adjournment do with grati-

* "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolutionary War."

tude acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 20 of November last accompanied with a treatise containing a particular state of our Rights and Privileges as free British subjects men & Christians together with the violation of and improvements made on the same which is in general agreeable to and approved of by the town of Stow We do with satisfaction take notice of the care and vigilance of the town of Boston discovered in this and many former instances to preserve our happy constitution from infringements and violations and are of opinion that the Province in general and the town of Stow in particular are much obliged to the town of Boston for this and the many other exertions by which they have distinguished themselves and be assured that the town of Stow at all times will think themselves honored to be able in any degree however small to encourage your hearts and strengthen your hands so far forth as we may consistent with loyalty duty and decency, and as we are solicitous of handing down to posterity the privileges both civil and religious obtained by our ancestors at the expense of their lives and fortunes we shall at all times and on all proper occasions endeavour to preserve the constitution from infringements and obtain a redress of grievances where the same is violated, in a loyal manly and decent manner.

It is with great concern we take notice that the British parliament have assumed to themselves power of legislation for the Colonists in all cases whatever and in consequence thereof are daily collecting a revenue from amongst us and appropriating the same for the support of provincial officers thereby rendering them entirely independent of the Province which we fear may one day destroy the liberty thereof we do also with uneasiness take notice of the unreasonable contention of the Power

of the Courts of Vice Admiralty in the Colonies whereby the good people thereof are in a great degree deprived of the invaluable right to trials by juries together with many other grievances some of which we already feel and others we have reason to fear. We hope and trust that the great and general Court (who are the proper and constitutional guardians of the Province) at their present and future sessions will adopt and pursue such measures as will secure and preserve the privileges we enjoy and obtain a redress where they are violated. We are in the cause of constitutional liberty with great respect your bretheren &c.

CHARLES WHITMAN Per Order

To the Gent^{n} the committee of communication and correspondence at Boston.

Voted that the town clerk be directed to record the proceedings of this meeting in the town book of records of Stow and that he transmit to the committee of correspondence & communications at Boston a fair copy of the report of the committee this day made.

PHINEAS TAYLOR Moderator

WILL OF DANIEL GATES.

In the Name of God Amen I Daniel Gates of Stow in the County of Middlesix and State of the Maſsachuſetts bay in New England Husbandman Knowing all Perſons are all Born once to Die and I being Engaged in the Service of the united states Not Knowing the futer Events of anything But Being in Perfect mind and memory and thinking it my Duty to Dispoſe of what the Great God heath Bleſsed me with in the following man-

ner viz my Body to the Earth from Whence it Came with a Christian Burial If Where it Can be obtained — and my precious Soul to God that Gave it hopeing in the Meritts of the Redemer to Be Rec^{d} To Glorey — and as to my Earthly Estate to Be Diſpoſed of in the following manner

I Do freely Give unto my Beloved Brother oliver Gates all the Land owned by me & ye Money Due to me. upon the several Notes Due to me and all other Estate that is my Property I freely Give to him the s^{d} oliver Gates and I Do appoint the s^{d} oliver Gates to Be the Sole Executor of this my Laſt will & Testament Revoaking all former wills & Testaments and Declareing this to be my Laſt Will and Testament

In witneſs whereof I have hereunto Sett my hand and Seal this fifth Day of May and in the firſt year of the Independance of the United States of America

Sign sealed and Declared as the Laſt will & Testament of the s^{d} Daniel Gates

DANIEL GATES

Jabez Brown
Joſhua Brown
Grace Brown

Middlesex 12 May 1778 Preſented by the Executor Oliver Gates, & atteſted by the Oaths of Jabez Brown & Grace Brown

A FAMILY TREASURE.

AMONG the heirlooms possessed by various members of the family there is one of special interest — an ancient silver spoon — cherished for the associations which surround it, rather than for its intrinsic value. Tradition relates that this spoon once belonged to Anna, the wife of Daniel Gates, of Stow, and the letters engraved upon it were reputed to be the initials of Anna Eveleth Gates, and were thought to show that the maiden name of Mrs. Gates was Anna Eveleth.

Among the various reasons assigned for this belief were an occasional mention by some of the elder members of the family, of an Eveleth ancestor, which was supposed by their younger relatives to refer to Mrs. Daniel Gates; and it was also claimed that she was a sister of the Rev. John Eveleth, one of the early ministers of the Church in Stow. But a conveyance of property by Joseph Eveleth of Ipswich (father of John),

shows that his daughter's name was Hannah, and that she was unmarried in 1719, at which time Daniel Gates had been married five years or more, but to whom is as yet unknown, save that her Christian name was Anna,* who survived him and was the mother of all his children.

As will be seen from the engraving, the shape and style of the handle of this spoon show that it must have been made at a much later date than the period to which tradition assigns it. It is evident, therefore, that its original ownership remains to be discovered, as well as the line of descent by which it came into the possession of Mr. Julius K. Gates, of Ashby, who now has it.

See page 10.

He inherited it from his aunt, Mrs. Anna W. Whitcomb, but its earlier history has not been definitely ascertained. Some authorities say that the letter A placed at the top is quite probably the initial of a family surname, E indicating the initial of the husband's Christian name, and G that of his wife, — this being the customary mode in olden times of engraving wedding and other family silver; but after extensive research, no ancestor bearing a name beginning with A has been discovered, and the family are confident that in some way the spoon must be connected with one of their own name. It is hoped that the engraving may enable some one to identify it, decipher the initials, and establish its connection with the Gates or Hayward families.

HAYWARD NOTES.

IT is stated on page 30 that Paul Gates, the founder of the family in the town of Ashby, married Elizabeth Hayward, of Boxboro. Some notes of interest relating to the Hayward family are given in a letter from Mr. Moses Hayward, and in the Family Bible of Paul Hayward, the father of Elizabeth, which are printed below: —

BOSTON, March 28th, 1867.

Dear Cousin H. Gates:

Below is a record of the Paul Hayward family of Boxboro.... Mr. Hayward was born in West Acton, Mass., April 4th, 1745; he was a young man of integrity, good talent and acquirements, and showed superior judgment in selecting his companion for life.

Miss Anna White was born in the western part of Carlisle, Mass., June 26th, 1745. She was a young lady of fine natural and acquired attainments, of noble, interesting appearance, early trained in the Puritan doctrines and Christian system of salvation. As the mother of a large family, she instructed them to keep the commands of God, and trust in the merits of a crucified

Redeemer for salvation; she was ever ready to guide, by example and good counsel, her children and grandchildren; her influence is great on their posterity to this day, and may be enjoyed by them forever, for she was one of those mothers in Israel whose influence is blest through all time.

Of their early acquaintance we know but little, further than that she was a "schoolmarm" of those days, and taught in Acton, near the place of his birth. They were very happy in the marriage relation and exceedingly prospered in their basket and store, but more especially in their posterity; they had ten children, all of whom came to middle age; all had large families, — two of them had fourteen children each; nine lived to over sixty years of age, eight to over seventy, two to over ninety, and one to ninety-six years. This family was closely united, each contributing to the happiness of the other in prosperity, and sympathizing with them when in trouble.

All of them engaged in agricultural pursuits, the most honorable (aside from preaching the Gospel) of any in this world, and were prospered, leaving to their children a goodly portion. All of them made profession of the Christian faith in early life, and were firm pillars and supporters in the Church. The heads of this family were enjoying prosperity when the Revolutionary War began, and suffered much from its necessary consequences. Mr. Hayward lost a dear brother, who wore the old powder-horn which was pierced with a ball at Fisk's hill, in Lexington, and which was afterwards exhibited for a long time in the Representatives' Hall in the State House, Boston.

The burdens incurred in that struggle for Liberty and Independence bore heavily upon them. They took a very great interest in the reformation which followed the war, and after

living to extreme old age and witnessing the prosperity of descendants to five generations — a great company — they were at last gathered to their fathers.

From your playmate in boyhood,

MOSES HAYWARD.

A record of the Paul Hayward family of Boxboro:

Mr Paul Hayward Born April 4th. 1745.
Miss Anna White " June 26th 1745
Married July 15th. 1768–

From the Family Bible, which contains this inscription:

PAUL HAYWARD'S BIBLE

Presented by the desire of his Hon. Mother Mrs. Mary Hayward who departed this life Sept. 18, 1797 in the 82d year of her age

Blest is the mem'ry of the just
When they be sleeping in the dust.

Their Children

Anna Hayward	born	Monday Oct. 30th, 1769.
Paul Hayward Jr	"	Sunday April 7th, 1771.
Sarah Hayward	"	Thursday Oct. 15th, 1772.
Mather Hayward	"	Monday Sept. 19th, 1774.
Elizabeth Hayward	"	Monday Oct. 7th, 1776.
James Hayward	"	Saturday Jan. 2d, 1778.
Ebenezer Hayward	"	Saturday Dec. 8th, 1781.
Mary Hayward	"	Thursday Jan. 29th, 1783.
Samuel Hayward	"	Monday Nov. 21st, 1785.
Susanna Hayward	"	Monday Feb 25th, 1788.

DEATHS.

Mr Paul Hayward	died	May 16th 1825.	agd	80 ys & 27 days
Mrs Anna Hayward	"	Dec. 28th 1836.	"	91 " & 6 mo.

Their Children

Susanna Hartwell	"	July 22d 1821.	"	33.
Paul Hayward jr	"	Sept. 6th 1842.	"	71.
James Hayward	"	Nov. 11th 1846.	"	68.
Mather Hayward	"	April 18th 1850.	"	75.
Elizabeth Whitcomb	"	May 8th 1855.	"	78.
Mary Nourse	"	Sept. 2d 1854.	"	71.
Ebenezer Hayward	"	May 13th 1861.	"	79.
Samuel Hayward	"	July 1863.	"	76.
Anna Whitcomb	"	June 1864.	"	96.
Sarah Graham	"	Sept. 24th 1866.	"	94.

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